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Organizational and procedural matters

Annotations to the agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council

Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Organizational and procedural matters

Date and venue of the session

1. In accordance with its annual programme of work, as considered on 8 December 2014 at the organizational session for the ninth cycle of the Human Rights Council, the Council will hold its twenty-ninth session from 15 June to 3 July 2015 at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

2. In accordance with rule 8 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council, as contained in section VII of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, the organizational meeting for the twenty-ninth session will be held on 26 May 2015.

Agenda of the session

3. The agenda of the Human Rights Council is contained in section V of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. The Council will have before it the present annotations relating to items included in the agenda for the twenty-ninth session.

Composition of the Human Rights Council

4. The composition of the Human Rights Council at its twenty-ninth session is as follows:[1] Albania (2017); Algeria (2016); Argentina (2015); Bangladesh (2017); Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (2017); Botswana (2017); Brazil (2015); China (2016); Congo (2017); Côte d'Ivoire (2015); Cuba (2016); El Salvador (2017); Estonia (2015); Ethiopia (2015); France (2016); Gabon (2015); Germany (2015); Ghana (2017); India (2017); Indonesia (2017); Ireland (2015); Japan (2015); Kazakhstan (2015); Kenya (2015); Latvia (2017); Maldives (2016); Mexico (2016); Montenegro (2015); Morocco (2016); Namibia (2016); Netherlands (2017); Nigeria (2017); Pakistan (2015); Paraguay (2017); Portugal (2017); Qatar (2017); Republic of Korea (2015); Russian Federation (2016); Saudi Arabia (2016); Sierra Leone (2015); South Africa (2016); the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2016); United Arab Emirates (2015); United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2016); United States of America (2015); Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (2015); Viet Nam (2016).

Bureau of the Human Rights Council

5. At its organizational session, held on 8 December 2014, the Human Rights Council elected the following members of the Bureau for its ninth cycle, which will run from 1 January until 31 December 2015: President of the Council, Joachim Rücker (Germany); Vice-Presidents, Mukhtar Tileuberdi (Kazakhstan), Filloreta Kodra (Albania), Juan Esteban Aguirre Martínez (Paraguay), Vice-President and Rapporteur, Mothusi Bruce Rabasha Palai (Botswana).

[1] The term of membership of each State expires in the year indicated in parenthesis.

Selection and appointment of mandate holders

6. In accordance with paragraph 47 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and the requirements set out in Council decision 6/102, the consultative group composed of Alexandros Alexandris (Greece), Boudjemâa Delmi (Algeria), Remigiusz A. Henczel (Poland), Marta Maurás (Chile) and Faisal Bin Hassan Trad (Saudi Arabia) will propose to the President of the Council a list of candidates for the new mandate holders for the following mandates to be appointed at the twenty-ninth session: Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism; Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy; Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (one member from Western European and other States); Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (one member from Asia-Pacific States).

7. In accordance with the procedure stipulated in paragraphs 52 and 53 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the appointment of special procedures mandate holders will be completed upon the subsequent approval by the Council. The mandate holders in question will be appointed before the end of the twenty-ninth session.

Report of the session

8. At the end of its session, the Human Rights Council will have before it for adoption a draft report prepared by the Rapporteur. The report will contain a technical summary of the proceedings of the twenty-ninth session.

2. Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General

9. All reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR) and the Secretary-General are submitted under agenda item 2, which remains an open-ended item throughout the session. These reports will be considered at the time of consideration of relevant agenda items, as appropriate. The specific timing of their introduction will be reflected in the programme of work.

Violence against women

10. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/166, the Human Rights Council will have before it the report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (A/HRC/29/3-E/CN.6/2015/6) (see also para. 30 below).

Effective implementation of international human rights instruments

11. In its resolution 9/8, the Human Rights Council requested the Secretary-General to report annually on measures taken to implement that resolution. As explained in the note by the Secretariat submitted at the twenty-eighth session (A/HRC/28/21), in the light of overlapping reporting obligations, the report of the Secretary-General has been postponed and would be submitted to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. Accordingly, the Council will consider the report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/29/53).

Global efforts and good practices to effectively eliminate female genital mutilation

12. In its resolution 27/22, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner to prepare, in consultation with States, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the treaty bodies, relevant special procedures, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, a compilation of good practices and major challenges in preventing and eliminating female genital mutilation, and to submit it to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the compilation prepared by the High Commissioner (A/HRC/29/20).

International Albinism Awareness Day

13. Reference is made to the oral update of the High Commissioner on the initiatives taken to raise awareness and promote the protection of the rights of persons with albinism (see para. 39 below).

Business and human rights

14. In its resolution 26/22, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner to continue work to facilitate the sharing and exploration of the full range of legal options and practical measures to improve access to remedy for victims of business-related human rights abuses, in collaboration with the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, to organize consultations with experts, States and other relevant stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding and greater consensus among different views, and to publish a progress report thereon before the twenty-ninth session of the Council. The Council will consider the progress report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/29/39).

15. In the same resolution, the Human Rights Council welcomed the study by the Secretary-General on the feasibility of a global fund to enhance the capacity of stakeholders to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (A/HRC/26/20/Add.1), and requested the High Commissioner to consult with States and relevant stakeholders to develop concrete options and proposals to inform a decision on whether to create such a fund, and to submit a report thereon to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/29/18) (see also paras. 41 and 56 below).

Human rights and climate change

16. In its resolution 26/27, the Human Rights Council decided to incorporate into its programme of work for the twenty-eighth session a full-day discussion on specific themes relating to human rights and climate change. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to submit to it, at its session following the full-day discussion, a summary report, including any recommendations stemming therefrom, for consideration of further follow-up action. The Council will have before it the summary report of OHCHR (A/HRC/29/19).

Atrocities committed by the terrorist group Boko Haram and their effects on human rights in the States affected

17. Reference is made to the oral update of OHCHR on the violations and abuses of human rights and the atrocities committed by the terrorist group Boko Haram in the States affected by such acts (see para. 49 below).

Contribution of parliaments to the work of the Human Rights Council and its universal periodic review

18. Reference is made to the oral update of the High Commissioner on the activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on parliamentary capacity-building, as well as on its activities with regard to the work of the Council and its universal periodic review (see para. 58 below).

Operations of the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review and the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review

19. In its decision 17/119, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to provide an annual written update to the Council on the operations of the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review and the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review and the resources available thereto. The Council will have before it the reports of OHCHR thereon (A/HRC/29/21 and 22).

Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

20. In its resolution 27/32, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner to update his report on discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (A/HRC/19/41) with a view to sharing good practices and ways to overcome violence and discrimination, and in application of existing international human rights law and standards. It also requested the High Commissioner to present the updated report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/29/23).

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

21. Reference is made to the presentation of the High Commissioner on the overview of and successes, best practices and challenges in technical assistance and capacity-building efforts (see para. 66 below).

3. Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

A. Economic, social and cultural rights

Right to education

22. In its resolution 8/4, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education to, inter alia, report to the Council on a yearly basis, in accordance with its programme of work. In its resolution 26/17, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a period of three years, and requested the Special Rapporteur to take fully into account, in the discharge of the mandate, all provisions of Council resolutions on the right to education. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Kishore Singh (A/HRC/29/30 and Add.1–2).

Extreme poverty and human rights

23. In its resolution 26/3, the Human Rights Council decided to extend, for a period of three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights as set out in Council resolution 8/11. It requested the Special Rapporteur to submit an annual report on the implementation of its resolution 26/3 to the Council, in accordance with its programme of work. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Philip Alston, and that of his predecessor (A/HRC/29/31 and Add.1).

Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

24. In its resolution 24/6, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health to submit an annual report to the Council covering all activities relating to the mandate. The Council will consider the report of the new mandate holder, Dainius Pūras (A/HRC/29/33 and Add.1).

B. Civil and political rights

Rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association

25. In its resolution 24/5, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association to continue to report annually to the Council. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Maina Kiai (A/HRC/29/25 and Add.1–3).

Freedom of opinion and expression

26. In its resolution 25/2, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression to submit an annual report to the Council covering all activities relating to the mandate. The Council will consider the report of the new mandate holder, David Kaye (A/HRC/29/32 and Add.1).

Independence of judges and lawyers

27. In its resolution 17/2, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers to report regularly to the Council in accordance with its programme of work. In its resolution 26/7, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for a period of three years on the same terms as provided by the Council in its resolution 17/2. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Gabriela Knaul (A/HRC/29/26 and Add.1–4).

Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

28. In its resolution 26/12, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for three years, and requested the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out the mandate, to continue to examine situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in all circumstances and for whatever reason, and to submit to the Council his findings on an annual basis, together with conclusions and recommendations. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Christof Heyns (A/HRC/29/37 and Add.1–5).

C. Rights of peoples, and of specific groups and individuals

Violence against women

29. In its resolution 16/7, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences to report to the Council in accordance with its annual programme of work. In its resolution 23/25, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, as set out in its resolution 16/7, for a period of three years. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Rashida Manjoo (A/HRC/29/27 and Add.1–3).

30. Reference is made to the report on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (A/HRC/29/3-E/CN.6/2015/6) (see para. 10 above).

Global efforts and good practices to effectively eliminate female genital mutilation

31. Reference is made to the compilation prepared by the High Commissioner on good practices and major challenges in preventing and eliminating female genital mutilation (A/HRC/29/20) (see para. 12 above).

Discrimination against women

32. In its resolution 15/23, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a working group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, whose task would be, inter alia, to submit an annual report to the Council on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, and on good practices in eliminating such discrimination, drawing upon the findings of the United Nations human rights machinery and the broader United Nations system. In its resolution 26/5, the Council requested the Working Group to continue to work on its thematic priorities, namely, political and public life, economic and social life, family and cultural life, and health and safety, and to dedicate specific attention to good practices that have contributed to mobilizing society as a whole, including men and boys, in the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and girls. In the same resolution, the Council took note with appreciation of the intention of the Working Group to focus its next report on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice in family and cultural life. The Council will consider the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/29/40 and Add.1–3).

33. In its resolution 6/30, the Human Rights Council decided to incorporate into its programme of work sufficient and adequate time, at minimum an annual full-day meeting, to discuss the human rights of women, including measures that can be adopted by States and other stakeholders, to address human rights violations experienced by women. In its resolution 23/25, the Council invited OHCHR to include, during the annual full-day discussion on women's human rights to be held during the twenty-ninth session of the Council, a discussion on the outcome of the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group that was to be convened by the Secretary-General in 2014 and organized by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on ways and means to more effectively prevent, prosecute and punish gender-related killings of women and girls, and on the work carried out on good and promising practices. In its resolution 26/15, the Council recalled the invitation extended to OHCHR in its resolution 23/25 to include, during the annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women, to be held at the twenty-ninth session of the Council, a discussion on the issue of gender-related killings. Pursuant to those resolutions, the Council will hold a full-day discussion (see annex).

Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl

34. In its resolution 27/6, the Human Rights Council decided to convene, at its twenty-ninth session, a panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices in this regard (see annex).

Trafficking in persons, especially women and children

35. In its resolution 26/8, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children for a period of three years, in order to, inter alia, report annually on the implementation of that resolution to the Council, according to its programme of work. The Council will consider the report of the new mandate holder, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro (A/HRC/29/38 and Add.1–2).

Human rights of internally displaced persons

36. In its resolution 23/8, the Human Rights Council invited the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue to submit annual reports on the implementation of the mandate to the Council, making suggestions and recommendations regarding the human rights of internally displaced persons, including on the impact of measures taken at the inter-agency level. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Chaloka Beyani (A/HRC/29/34 and Add.1–3).

Human rights of migrants

37. In its resolution 26/19, the Human Rights Council decided to extend for a period of three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, with the function to, inter alia, report regularly to the Council in accordance with its annual programme of work. In its resolution 26/21, the Council requested the Special Rapporteur to continue to report on practical solutions, including by identifying best practices and concrete areas and means for international cooperation in order to enhance the protection of the human rights of migrants, and to continue to pay attention to the topic of the universal enjoyment of human rights for all migrants. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, François Crépeau (A/HRC/29/36 and Add.1–3).

Protection of Roma

38. In its resolution 26/4, the Human Rights Council recognized the need to carry out a comprehensive study of the human rights situation of Roma worldwide, with a particular focus on the phenomenon of anti-Gypsyism, and invited the Special Rapporteur on minority issues to prepare the above-mentioned study with concrete recommendations and to submit it to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will have before it the study of the Special Rapporteur, Rita Izsák (A/HRC/29/24).

International Albinism Awareness Day

39. In its resolution 26/10, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner to keep it informed at its twenty-ninth session of the initiatives taken to raise awareness and to promote the protection of the rights of persons with albinism. In its resolution 69/170, the General Assembly recalled the Council's request to the High Commissioner. The High Commissioner will accordingly present an oral update to the Council.

D. Interrelation of human rights and human rights thematic issues

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

40. In its resolution 27/21, the Human Rights Council decided to organize a biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights, starting at its twenty-ninth session (see annex).

Business and human rights

41. In its resolution 17/4, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, and requested it to report annually to the Council. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Working Group to guide the work of the Forum on Business and Human Rights. In its resolution 26/22, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Working Group as set out in Council resolution 17/4 for a period of three years. The Council will consider the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/29/28 and Add.1–3).

42. Reference is made to the progress report of the High Commissioner on legal options and practical measures to improve access to remedy for victims of business-related human rights abuses (A/HRC/29/39) (see para. 14 above).

43. Reference is also made to the report of the High Commissioner on the feasibility of a global fund to enhance the capacity of stakeholders to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (A/HRC/29/18) (see para. 15 above).

44. Reference is further made to the note by the Secretariat transmitting the summary of the discussions of the third annual Forum on Business and Human Rights (A/HRC/29/29) (see para. 56 below).

Human rights and climate change

45. Reference is made to the summary report of OHCHR on the full-day discussion on specific themes relating to human rights and climate change (A/HRC/29/19) (see para. 16 above).

Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights

46. In its resolution 28/17, the Human Rights Council decided to convene, at its twenty-ninth session, a panel discussion on the effects of terrorism on the enjoyment by all persons of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and requested the High Commissioner to liaise with States and all stakeholders, including the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies and programmes, treaty bodies, special procedures mandate holders, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations with a view to ensuring their participation in the panel discussion (see annex).

Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

47. In its resolution 25/7, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to report regularly to the Council and to present his reports, bearing in mind the content of that resolution, in conformity with its annual programme of work. The Council was informed that, at the request of the mandate holder, his annual report would be submitted to the Council for its consideration at its twenty-ninth session (see A/HRC/28/67). Accordingly, the Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Ben Emmerson (A/HRC/29/51) and hold an interactive dialogue.

Human rights and international solidarity

48. In its resolution 26/6, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity for a period of three years and requested the mandate holder to report regularly to the Council in accordance with its programme of work. The Council will consider the report of the Independent Expert, Virginia Dandan (A/HRC/29/35).

Atrocities committed by the terrorist group Boko Haram and their effects on human rights in the States affected

49. In its resolution S-23/1, the Human Rights Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner to collect information on the violations and abuses of human rights and the atrocities committed by the terrorist group Boko Haram in the States affected by such acts, and to provide an oral update, during an interactive dialogue, at its twenty-ninth session.

4. Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Situation of human rights in Eritrea

50. In its resolution 26/24, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea for a period of one year, and requested the mandate holder to present a report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Sheila B. Keetharuth (A/HRC/29/41).

51. Also in resolution 26/24, the Human Rights Council decided to establish, for a period of one year, a commission of inquiry to investigate all alleged violations of human rights in Eritrea, as outlined in the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea. It also requested the commission of inquiry to present a written report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the commission of inquiry (A/HRC/29/42).

The continuing grave deterioration in the human rights and humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

52. In its resolution 28/20, the Human Rights Council decided to extend for one year the mandate of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, established by the Council in its resolution S-17/1 of 23 August 2011, to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law since March 2011 in the Syrian Arab Republic, to establish the facts and circumstances that may amount to such violations and of the crimes perpetrated and, where possible, to identify those responsible with a view to ensuring that perpetrators of violations, including those that may constitute crimes against humanity, are held accountable. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Commission of Inquiry to provide an oral update during an interactive dialogue at the twenty-ninth session of the Council. Accordingly, the Council will be given an oral update by the Commission, with which it will also hold an interactive dialogue.

Situation of human rights in Belarus

53. In its resolution 26/25, the Human Rights Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus for a period of one year, and requested the Special Rapporteur to submit a report to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Miklós Haraszti (A/HRC/29/43).

5. Human rights bodies and mechanisms

A. Special procedures

54. The Human Rights Council will have before it the communications report of special procedures (A/HRC/29/50). The full report will be available online.

B. Social Forum

55. In its resolution 26/28, the Human Rights Council decided that the Social Forum would meet for three working days in 2015 and that, at its next meeting, the Forum should focus on access to medicines in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including best practices in this regard. In the same resolution, the Council invited the 2015 Social Forum to submit a report containing its conclusions and recommendations to the Council at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will consider the report of the Forum on the session, held from 18 to 20 February 2015 (A/HRC/29/44).

C. Forum on Business and Human Rights

56. In its resolution 17/4, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a Forum on Business and Human Rights under the guidance of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights, including challenges faced in particular sectors, operational environments or in relation to specific rights or groups, as well as identifying good practices. In its resolution 26/22, the Council decided that the two-day Forum should continue to be held on an annual basis, with the addition of one meeting day to allow for the preparation and sharing of new tools and experience. The Council will have before it a note by the Secretariat transmitting the summary of the discussions of the third annual Forum, held from 1 to 3 December 2014 (A/HRC/29/29) (see also paras. 14, 15 and 41 above).

D. Open-ended intergovernmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace

57. In its resolution 20/15, the Human Rights Council decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of progressively negotiating a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace. In its resolution 27/17, the Council decided that the working group would hold its third session in 2015 with the objective of finalizing the declaration. It also requested the working group to prepare a report and to submit it to the Council, to be made available in all official languages of the United Nations, for consideration at its twenty-ninth session. The Council will have before it the report of the working group (A/HRC/29/45).

E. Contribution of parliaments to the work of the Human Rights Council and its universal periodic review

58. In its resolution 26/29, the Human Rights Council invited the High Commissioner to provide the Council with regular updates on the activities of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

on parliamentary capacity-building, as well as on its activities with regard to the work of the Council and its universal periodic review. Accordingly, the High Commissioner will give an oral update thereon.

6. Universal periodic review

59. In its resolution 5/1, the Human Rights Council established the universal periodic review mechanism as contained in section I of the annex to that resolution. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review held its twenty-first session from 19 to 30 January 2015. At its twenty-ninth session, the Council will consider and adopt the final outcome of the review of Armenia (A/HRC/29/11), Grenada (A/HRC/29/14), Guinea (A/HRC/29/6), Guinea-Bissau (A/HRC/29/12), Guyana (A/HRC/29/16), Kenya (A/HRC/29/10), Kiribati (A/HRC/29/5), Kuwait (A/HRC/29/17), Kyrgyzstan (A/HRC/29/4), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (A/HRC/29/7), Lesotho (A/HRC/29/9), Spain (A/HRC/29/8 and Add.1), Sweden (A/HRC/29/13) and Turkey (A/HRC/29/15).

60. Pursuant to President's statement 9/2 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process, the outcomes of the review are adopted by the Council at its plenary session by a standardized decision. The outcomes comprise the report of the Working Group, the views of the State under review concerning the recommendations and/or conclusions, and the voluntary commitments made and replies presented by the State under review, before the adoption of the outcome by the plenary, to questions or issues that were not sufficiently addressed during the interactive dialogue in the Working Group.

61. Reference is made to the reports of OHCHR on the operations of the Voluntary Fund for Participation in the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/29/21) and on the operations of the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review (A/HRC/29/22) (see para. 19 above).

7. Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Ensuring respect for international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

62. In its resolution S-21/1, the Human Rights Council decided to dispatch an independent, international commission of inquiry to investigate all violations of international law in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the occupied Gaza Strip, in the context of the military operations conducted since 13 June 2014, and to report to the Council at its twenty-eighth session. In her letter of 9 March 2015 to the President of the Council, the Chairperson of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry, Mary McGowan Davis, invited the Council to consider the possibility of postponing the submission and presentation of the report of the Commission of Inquiry to the twenty-ninth session of the Council. At its twenty-eighth session, pursuant to its President's proposal, the Council decided to postpone the submission and consideration of the report of the Commission of Inquiry to the twenty-ninth session. Accordingly, the Council will consider the report of the Commission (A/HRC/29/52).

8. Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

63. Reference is made to the updated report of the High Commissioner on discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (A/HRC/29/23) (see para. 20 above).

9. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

64. In its resolution 25/32, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to submit an annual report to the Council on all activities relating to the mandate. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Mutuma Ruteere (A/HRC/29/46 and Add.1).

65. In its resolution 69/160 on combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the General Assembly requested the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to prepare, for submission to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-ninth session, reports on the implementation of that resolution. The Council will consider the report of the Special Rapporteur, Mutuma Ruteere (A/HRC/29/47).

10. Technical assistance and capacity-building

Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

66. In its resolution 18/18, the Human Rights Council invited the High Commissioner to make an annual presentation, under agenda item 10, on the overview of and successes, best practices and challenges in technical assistance and capacity-building efforts, particularly those provided by the Office of the High Commissioner and relevant United Nations agencies. The High Commissioner will give an oral presentation to the Council.

67. Also in its resolution 18/18, the Human Rights Council invited the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights to present a comprehensive report on the Board's work to the Council on an annual basis. The Council will have before it the report of the Board of Trustees (A/HRC/29/48).

Capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights

68. In its resolution 26/32, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a new mandate on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights, to follow on from the previous mandate, for a period of one year, renewable, and requested the Independent Expert to submit a report at its twenty-eighth session and his or her final recommendations at its twenty-ninth session. In February 2015, the Council was informed that, owing to time constraints, the Independent Expert would present an oral report to the Council at its twenty-eighth session and would submit to it a written report at

its twenty-ninth session (see A/HRC/28/84). Accordingly, the Council will have before it the report of the Independent Expert, Mohammed Ayat, and his final recommendations (A/HRC/29/49).

Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic

69. In its resolution 27/28, the Human Rights Council decided to hold an interactive dialogue at its twenty-ninth session, in the presence of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic and other relevant stakeholders, to assess developments in the human rights situation on the ground, with a particular focus on the fight against impunity. The Council will hold an interactive dialogue in the presence of the Independent Expert, Marie-Thérèse Keita Bocoum, and other relevant stakeholders.

Annex

Panels and discussions to be held at the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council

Mandate	*Panel discussion*
Resolutions 6/30, 23/25 and 26/15 Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system	Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women
Resolution 27/6 Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl	Panel discussion on realizing the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl
Resolution 27/21 Human rights and unilateral coercive measures	Biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights
Resolution 28/17 Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights	Panel discussion on the effects of terrorism on the enjoyment by all persons of human rights and fundamental freedoms